



## OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**KEVIN R. STEELE**

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**EDWARD F. McCANN, JR.**

FIRST ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY

**COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY**

COURTHOUSE

P.O. BOX 311

NORRISTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

19404-0311

**MARK A. BERNSTIEL**

CHIEF COUNTY DETECTIVE

**ADRIENNE D. JAPPE**

CHIEF OF STAFF

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

**DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S FAX**

**COUNTY DETECTIVE BUREAU**

**(610) 278-3090**

**(610) 278-3095**

**(610) 278-3368**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **GIRLFRIEND OF NORRISTOWN MURDER VICTIM ARRESTED FOR HER ROLE IN ROBBERY, MURDER**



**KATHERINE EMEL**

NORRISTOWN, Pa. (Feb. 7, 2024) — Montgomery County District Attorney Kevin R. Steele and Norristown Police Chief Jacqueline Bailey-Davis announce the arrest of Katherine Emel, 29, of Plymouth Meeting, on Second-Degree Murder, Robbery and Conspiracy charges related to the killing of William Carter on Jan. 20, 2024 in Norristown.

The murder happened at 7:49 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 20, 2024. Norristown Police responded to shots fired at West Wood Street and Powell Street and arrived to find Carter dead on the sidewalk on the west side of West Wood Street. A joint homicide investigation by Norristown Police and Montgomery County Detectives found that Carter had left a nearby residence to get some money out a white Buick LeSabre. Detectives located video surveillance that captured Carter leave the Buick, and as he crossed the street, three males ran out of a gray Toyota RAV-4 and robbed the victim. A fourth male remained in the driver's seat of the Toyota. After the defendants robbed Carter, one of the assailants shot Carter once in the head, killing him. The investigation found that Damon Brantley Jr., 18, of Norristown; Daquan Allen, 29, of Norristown; Jerry Butler, 28, of Philadelphia; and a fourth male were involved at the scene of the armed robbery and killing of Carter, with Brantley identified as the shooter.

Detectives learned that the vehicle Carter was driving belonged to his girlfriend, Katherine Emel, who had placed a GPS tracking device in the vehicle's trunk. Detectives learned through cellphone records and other investigative techniques that Emel had communicated with co-defendant Daquan Allen multiple times before Carter's robbery and murder, telling him that Carter had recently won \$3,000 gambling and provided the location where Carter was going to be on the evening of Jan. 20, 2024. Following the murder, video surveillance from a business on North Broad Street in Philadelphia, shows Emel and Allen meeting between 9:31 and 9:48 p.m., where Allen gave \$700 to Emel.

"When you assist other people in committing a dangerous felony like robbery and the target of the robbery is murdered, then under the law, you are responsible for their murder as well," said DA Steele. "In this case, this defendant is charged with Second-Degree Murder, which is a homicide that occurs during the commission of a felony."

Emel turned herself in on Feb. 7, 2024, and was charged with Second-Degree Murder, Robbery and Conspiracy. She was arraigned by Magisterial District Judge Todd Stephens. No bail is available for Second-Degree Murder, and she was remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. Allen, Butler and Brantley were also arraigned today by Judge Stephens, after being extradited back to Montgomery County from Endicott, N.Y. There is no bail available for First-Degree Murder charges, and they were remanded to the Montgomery County Correctional Facility. A preliminary hearing for all four defendants is scheduled for 10:30 a.m., Feb. 16, 2024, before Magisterial District Judge Todd Barnes.

The case will be prosecuted by Assistant District Attorneys Meghan Carney and Jediah Grobstein.

Approved for release:  
Kevin R. Steele

*CRIMINAL CHARGES, AND ANY DISCUSSION THEREOF, ARE MERELY ALLEGATIONS AND ALL DEFENDANTS ARE PRESUMED INNOCENT UNTIL AND UNLESS PROVEN GUILTY.*